

full colonel. After earning his engineering license in California, Mr. Tenorio returned to Guam. Even before his arrival, word had spread in Guam that a native son was coming home as a licensed civil engineer. Almost immediately, Mr. Tenorio was urged to take on the directorship of GovGuam's Department of Public Works. After serving as director for 2 years, Mr. Tenorio struck out on his own. The rest, as they say, is history.

In 1971, the firm of Juan C. Tenorio began as a three-man operation in a shared office space. Its first year revenue was only \$30,000. Today, Juan C. Tenorio and Associates employs more than 50 people and grosses several millions annually. Its design projects include major infrastructure improvements in Guam and Saipan, hotels, shopping centers, marinas, golf courses, resort complexes, and Guam's new Southern High School. As noted by Juan C. Tenorio's chief designer, Francisco Z. Diamzon, "When you combine the experience and expertise of the staff, you'll find that there is over 120 years of experience in this company. I am happy and proud to say I am part of that team." As company president and team leader, Juan remains a hands-on practitioner of the engineering profession.

Juan C. Tenorio was the first Chamorro licensed civil engineer to venture into business. His success paves the way for other up-and-coming young professionals. His determination and commitment, his professionalism and personal integrity, have earned him the admiration and respect of the people of Guam and the Northern Marianas. I gladly join them in extending hearty congratulations and best wishes for many more years of success to Juan and his family, his wife Charlene and daughters Christina, Lisa, and Tico, and to the staff and management of Juan C. Tenorio & Associates, Inc. May your next 25 years bring continued growth and prosperity.

#### STOP THE FIRES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 20, 1996*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my outrage and that of good Americans across this great country at the wave of suspicious fires that have swept at least 30 churches in the South in recent months. Churches and synagogues are the cornerstones of our communities, providing the moral and spiritual cultivation that our society so desperately needs. I ask all my colleagues in the House to voice their condemnation of these deplorable acts. Vandalizing places of worship is not a partisan issue.

I also call on all the moral leaders of our Nation and those of every religious background to stand against these acts of terror. Every synagogue, mosque and church is vulnerable to the same acts of terrorism committed against our black churches and it is crucial that leaders of every religious denomination speak out against the vandalism of our Nation's houses of worship.

It is a shame that the history of violence and intimidation toward black people in this country is repeating itself. Will we allow hate groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, the Aryan Nation, skinheads, and other white supremacist orga-

nizations to rise again? Will we allow the historic achievements of our courageous freedom fighters who sought to create a nation of fairness and racial harmony to be further defamed?

In our society, arson of a church attended predominately by African-Americans carries a unique and menacing threat to individuals in our Nation who remain physically vulnerable to acts of violence and intimidation because of their race. Such threats are intolerable and individuals responsible for such acts must be aggressively pursued and apprehended.

As churches burn from flames of hate and intolerance, there are those in our society who would dismantle civil rights legislation and affirmative action that have provided assistance to groups in our Nation who have been discriminated against due to their race, sex, or religious beliefs.

We as a Nation must not allow the practice of scapegoating others because they are of a different race or nationality or poor to continue. Our Nation was built on diversity and we must refute any beliefs that condone or support an atmosphere of blame and intolerance against those in our society who are defenseless, particularly our sick, poor, and aged. Just as the churches, synagogues, and mosques shelter our weak and defenseless, we as Americans have an obligation to protect those houses of worship from vicious attacks.

I commend President Clinton and Attorney General Janet Reno on their quick responses to investigate these criminal acts of terrorism and I hope those who make such treats will be prosecuted and will serve sentences commensurate with the cowardly and despicable nature of their actions.

#### RECOGNITION OF FOUR OUTSTANDING BUSINESS LEADERS

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 20, 1996*

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize four individuals from Missouri's Second Congressional District who are being honored by the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce and by the city of St. Charles, MO, for excellence in their businesses and community-oriented projects.

Mr. Bob J. Kirkwood, proprietor of Lewis & Clark's Restaurant and the Trailhead Brewing Co., has been named the 1996 Small Business Person of the Year by the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce. Through his hard work and leadership, Lewis & Clark's has grown into one of the most successful restaurants in the St. Louis area. In 1995 he opened the Trailhead Brewing Co., which is also experiencing phenomenal growth in its first year. Mr. Kirkwood has also been a leading advocate for other restaurateurs and small business owners through his work with the National Restaurant Association.

Mr. Manuel E. Joaquim of Findett Corp. has been recognized as the 1996 Employer of the Year in Manufacturing. Findett Corp. is a custom manufacturer of specialty chemicals for major corporations across North America. Under Mr. Joaquim's leadership, Findett's sales have increased rapidly over the past 5 years. His employees also participate in nu-

merous civic and community projects around the St. Charles area.

Mr. Jim Trenary of Jim Trenary Chevrolet has been recognized as the 1996 Employer of the Year in Retailing. Trenary Chevrolet, which opened in October of 1993 with 12 employees, currently has 43 employees with plans to expand and improve its facilities. Mr. Trenary has been in the automobile business 29 years, and he has served on numerous civic and business organizations in the St. Charles area.

Mr. Ray Pickett of Pickett, Ray, & Silver, Inc. has been named the 1996 Employer of the Year in Service. Mr. Pickett's company specializes in civil engineering, land planning, surveying, and construction management for numerous types of developments. Pickett, Ray, & Silver has experienced rapid growth, while providing highest quality of products and services to its customers.

Mr. Speaker, these gentleman and their companies are to be commended for their dedication to their customers, communities, and their country, I ask that you join me in congratulating them on these fine achievements.

#### RECOGNIZING SAME SEX MARRIAGE IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE MAJORITY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 20, 1996*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I recently received a letter from a former congressional staffer who passed along to me a column she had found in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on the subject of the pending same sex marriage bill. I think the article is an eloquent and forceful explanation of a point of view which very much ought to be understood by the Members before they vote on this legislation, and I ask that it be reprinted here.

[From the Cleveland Plain Dealer, June 9, 1996]

SAME-SEX MARRIAGES DESERVE RECOGNITION; PARTNERS NEED THE CHANCE TO LIVE IN PEACE

In a nation wracked by child abuse, domestic violence and divorce, it's hard to believe that politicians would spend their energy condemning people for loving each other. But that's exactly the effect of the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, which would prevent the U.S. government from recognizing same-sex marriages, even if those marriages are legal in individual states.

The act's congressional sponsors describe it as "protection" for the American family. However, as a married man, I am unable to discern the threat. On the contrary, I have come to believe that legalizing gay unions would actually strengthen the institution of marriage.

I did not always hold this conviction. As a teenager, I was bombarded with the same messages about homosexuals as most Americans. And I absorbed those messages: Gays were strange, perverted, lacking in morals. Besides, in my obsession with my own burgeoning heterosexuality, it seemed unfathomable that any male would not be sexually interested in females.

In the ensuing years, my opinions began to shift as I learned about the origins of sexual orientation. But I didn't change much until about age 25. That's when I met Bob and Scott.